

City of Cincinnati

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MUSIC FUSION WEEKEND CITY OF CINCINNATI SPECIAL EVENT ACCESS AND PARKING TIPS

Cincinnati USA will host a series of special activities during the week of August 15, 2005. This week, known as "Music Fusion 2005," is a celebration of the many diverse activities available for everyone's interests. For information about all of the events and activities this weekend, log on to www.cincinnatiusa.com or www.musicfusion05.com.

It is important to plan travel and parking needs to ensure a hassle-free trip and an enjoyable time when you visit those events in downtown Cincinnati.

Monday, August 15 & Tuesday, August 16

- Cincinnati Reds vs. San Francisco Giants, 7:10 p.m. at Great American Ball Park

Wednesday, August 17

- Party in the Park at Sawyer Point Park
- Cincinnati Reds vs. San Francisco Giants, 7:10 p.m. at Great American Ball Park

Thursday, August 18

- Cincinnati Reds vs. San Francisco Giants, 12:35 p.m. at Great American Ball Park

Friday, August 19

- Cincinnati Reds vs. Arizona Diamondbacks, 7:10 p.m. at Great American Ball Park
- Macy's Cincinnati Music Festival at Paul Brown Stadium
- Black Family Reunion Heritage Breakfast & Town Hall Meeting
- Rockin' on Walnut, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the corner of Sixth & Walnut

Saturday, August 20

- Cincinnati Reds vs. Arizona Diamondbacks, 7:10 p.m. at Great American Ball Park
- Macy's Cincinnati Music Festival at Paul Brown Stadium
- Black Family Reunion Parade and Event beginning at Union Terminal
- Cheap Trick and Alice Cooper concert, 8:00 p.m. at the US Bank Arena

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Sunday August 21

- Cincinnati Reds vs. Arizona Diamondbacks, 1:15 p.m. at Great American Ball Park
- Jimmy Buffett concert, 8:00 p.m. at the River Bend Music Center

To make the Music Fusion Week, 2005 a successful and fun-filled time, people are encouraged to keep the following traffic tips in mind:

- Know where to go
- Get there early for good parking
- Use public transportation
- Call ahead

KNOW WHERE TO GO

Recommended access routes to these events will depend on your parking plans, whether or not you have a prepaid parking pass to the Reds game, and the time you plan to arrive downtown.

Reds fans who have prepaid passes will access the Riverfront directly via Second or Third Streets. All other access to riverfront activities will need to utilize parking in either downtown Cincinnati, far-east and far-west riverfront parking, or parking in Northern Kentucky during scheduled times for Reds games. The following routes are suggested:

From I-71 Southbound:

- **Riverfront access:** Take the Reading Road/Gilbert Avenue exit and follow Gilbert to Court Street. Turn right onto Court and then turn left onto Reedy. From Reedy, turn left onto Eggleston Avenue and follow Pete Rose Way which either leads to prepaid parking areas near the Great American Ballpark or passes general parking that can be used for the Black Family Reunion. Eventually, the route goes to Paul Brown Stadium where cash lots will be available for Music Festival parking on a first-come, first-serve basis. Or, continue south on I-71 to the Third Street exit and follow Third Street to downtown parking locations if you arrive early and event traffic is light.

From I-71/75 Northbound:

- **Riverfront access:** Exit at Second Street and follow Second Street east to Riverfront parking if you have a prepaid parking pass. If you do not have a prepaid parking pass, exit at Fifth Street in Covington and use the Kenton County Garage or the park and ride lot near Jillian's, or exit at Fifth Street in Cincinnati and use Central Avenue or Fifth Street to access general parking.

From I-75 Southbound

- **Riverfront access:** Exit at Freeman Avenue and follow to Mehring Way or exit at Second Street if you have a prepaid parking pass or if you arrive early and event traffic is light. If you do not have a prepaid parking pass and the riverfront is congested, exit at Seventh Street and park downtown.

From Columbia Parkway

- **Riverfront access:** Exit at the Third Street exit and follow Third Street to downtown parking locations if you have a prepaid parking pass. If you do not have a prepaid parking pass, and the riverfront is congested, exit at Sixth Street and park in northern downtown.

From I-471 North

- **Riverfront access:** Take the US 50/Third Street exit to Third Street and access downtown parking if you have a prepared parking pass. If you do not have a prepaid parking pass, and the riverfront is congested, exit at Sixth Street to park in northern downtown.

Getting to these events is only half the fun – getting home is just as easy. Motorists can access the major highways and roads by the following routes:

- **I-75/71 South:** Follow Third Street to the on-ramp or to the Clay Wade Bailey Bridge to Covington, Kentucky, and then south to Pike Street. I-75/71 South can also be accessed in Cincinnati by following Ninth Street west to the on ramp.
- **I-75 North:** Take Central Avenue north to Fourth Street or Sixth Street west.
- **I-71 North or I-471 South:** Take Second Street to the I-71 North and I-471 South entrance ramps, or use Broadway to Fifth Street to the entrance ramps, or take Central Parkway/Reading north to entrance ramps at Liberty and Elsinore.
- **Columbia Parkway East:** Take Second Street to the Columbia Parkway/US 50 ramp, or use Broadway to Fifth Street and access the Columbia Parkway/US 50 ramp from Fifth Street.

Main Street between Second Street and Mehring Way will be closed prior to and during Reds games as this area is reserved for drop-off activity. Mehring Way between Broadway and Main Street will be closed on Saturday, August 20, after the Reds game for fireworks. This closure should last for less than one hour.

Additionally, there will be street closures for The Black Family Reunion Parade. The parade steps off at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 20, with street closures being placed about one hour prior to that time. The parade route begins at the Union Terminal and follows Ezzard Charles to Winchell Avenue to Freeman Avenue to Findlay Street to Linn Street to Court Street. These streets will be closed for the parade and be reopened as the parade passes. The parade is expected to end around noon.

GET THERE EARLY FOR GOOD PARKING

There are more than enough parking spaces on the Riverfront, in downtown Cincinnati, and in Northern Kentucky to accommodate the expected crowds at these events. It is important to arrive early to get the best parking and it is also necessary to know when parking will be at a premium.

For the Music Fusion Week 2005, the greatest parking demand will occur on Saturday, August 20, in the late afternoon and evening. Many of the Riverfront parking spaces will be reserved for Reds prepaid parking pass holders. Those who will be attending the Cheap Trick & Alice Cooper concert on Saturday night will not be allowed to park in the

parking garages next to the US Bank Arena because these spaces are reserved for prepaid parking for the Cincinnati Reds games. It will be especially important for these individuals to utilize parking in downtown Cincinnati north of Third Street. All other event patrons should arrive to their venue early on Saturday, especially if you plan to park on the riverfront. If you arrive late and do not have a Reds prepaid parking pass you should consider parking north of Fifth Street in downtown. A map is attached to this press release that shows suggested parking for events at the Great American Ball Park, Paul Brown Stadium, and the US Bank Arena. All other event parking will most likely have to occur in the “general” parking areas. These general parking areas are available on a first-come, first-serve basis in lots designated on the map with a “P.” Handicap parking for all riverfront events is also shown on the map. Buses and RV’s going to the Music Festival should use lot E and buses going to the Reds ball games should use the Riverfront Transit Center.

USE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The best way to beat the crowds is to use public transportation provided by the Metro and by the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK). This is a quick and convenient way to reach these events and avoid the cost of parking.

The Metro will provide their normal services throughout this week. For complete information on boarding points, fares, and routing for the Metro, contact MetroCenter at 513-621-4455 or visit the web site at www.sorta.com.

In addition to their normal weekend schedule, TANK will operate the Southbank Shuttle to transport fans from Northern Kentucky to Cincinnati. Patrons can catch the Southbank Shuttle at all Northern Kentucky riverfront hotels and all downtown hotels in Cincinnati.

Park and Ride lots are also located throughout Covington and Newport including the very convenient Kenton County Garage. For more information about the Southbank Shuttle and routing of TANK buses, contact TANK at 859 331-TANK or visit www.tankbus.org.

CALL AHEAD

Up-to-the-minute traffic conditions are accessible by phone. This is the best way to find out if the riverfront area is congested. Just call the ARTIMIS 511 number from any touch-tone phone and key in specific route codes to receive up-to-the-minute traffic information and estimated travel times. Out of town visitors may need to call (513) 333-3333 for this service. Also, follow the guidance provided by the ARTIMIS message signs that are located throughout the regions expressway system. For more information about ARTIMIS, log on to www.artimis.org.

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PARKING FOR MUSIC FUSION WEEK AUGUST 15-21, 2005

